



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

Record

Together we make a difference

Volume LII, No. 3, March 2019

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

- Regretfully, the Board announces that due to some unforeseen issues, the MVCCA 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala set for May 4, 2019, has been postponed to a later date. All ticket and sponsor money will be refunded. The Board appreciates the support and will let members and community know of a rescheduled date as soon as practicable.
- The March 27, 2019, General Council meeting will be held at 7 pm in Room 217 of the South County Government Center on Richmond Highway, due to a scheduling conflict at the Mount Vernon Government Center. At that meeting we expect to get an update on the status of development on "North Hill".
- 7:30 pm, March 26, 2019, Mount Vernon High School: VDOT highway design presentation.

- At the March meeting, the membership per the bylaws will supply three volunteers for the Nominating Committee to locate candidates for officers' election in May. These include Co-chairs, Secretary and Treasurer. Good candidates are needed to lead our organization, so please consider if you, or someone you know, would be willing to serve on the Nominating Committee--or in an officer capacity. No experience necessary! The two Nominating Committee members selected by the Board will be Karen Pohorylo and Bob Reynolds.
- Congratulations to our own Cathy Ledec and John Ribble! The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations has named Cathy as Citizen of the Year and John as recipient of its Special Gratitude Award. The Awards Banquet is 5:30 pm, April 7, 2019, at the Tysons Corner Doubletree Hotel. Register by April 3 at www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYrsvp.htm or call 703-424-2956.

MVCCA BOARD

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MVCCA GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

At Mt Vernon Government Center Community Room

PRESIDING: John Ribble, Co-Chair

ATTENDING: Judy Harbeck (Co-Chair) Committee Chairs: Ellen Young (SFDC), Pete Sitnik (Federation and Transportation), Gretchen Walzl/Karen Pohorylo (PZ), Dean Sherick (PS)

ELECTED OFFICIALS: Mount Vernon Supervisor, Dan Storck.

Voting Representatives from: Civic Association of Hollin Hills, Hollin Hall Village Citizens Association, Engleside Civic Association, Huntington Community Association, Mount Vernon Civic Association, Mount Zephyr, Stratford Landing Citizens Association, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Wellington Civic Association, and Woodlawn Manor Community Association.

The meeting was officially called to order at 8:00 PM

Council Minutes

A motion was approved to amend the agenda to allow Supervisor Storck to make his report at the top of the meeting was approved unanimously.

Supervisor Time:

- Strategic Plan meeting held at Gum Springs was well attended. Communities and residents asked for input via a survey called "Shaping the Future Together" is available online. Overall plan for Fairfax County can be found at fairfaxcounty.gov/strategicplan
- Budget meeting held
- Hollin Hills historic overlay project meeting to be held to discuss the impacts
- Fairfax Green Initiative
- Yellow Line of Metro Rail to close during the construction. See link for additional information on the planned improvements. <https://www.wmata.com/service/track-work.cfm>
- Decommissioning of the Fort Belvoir nuclear plant 3/12/19 presentation to be held at South County Government Center.
- South County Government Center to be named after former Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland.
- Ides of Bark event to be held at Grist Mill Park on Sunday, March 24, 2019
- Grist Mill planning presentation to be held on March 4, 2019 at Woodley Hills Elementary School.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 meeting were approved by acclamation.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES of the January 23, 2019 General Council Meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the period ending January 31, 2018 was approved by acclamation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance/Edu: Minutes submitted in the Record for review. Please note the Budget and Finance Committee continues to search for a committee chair. Please spread the word among the individuals in your communities.

E&R: No February meeting held. New committee chair to be named.

P&Z: No February meeting held. March meeting will be a presentation by 7/11 for the proposed changes and special exception of gas tanks on Lukens Lane. This will be a joint meeting with Transportation Committee.

Public Safety: Report can be found in the record.

Transportation: Minutes can be found in the Record. Continued conversations on the North Gateway area. Upcoming proposed resolutions.

Federation: Membership meeting was held on February 21. Budget meeting held. Resolution forth coming. Citizen of the Year celebration to be held on April 7 to honor Cathy Ledec.

SFDC: Upcoming Economic Summit to be held at the Belle Haven Country Club on April 11, 2019.

CO-CHAIRS REPORT/BOARD ACTIONS

Resolutions

- **EDU-2019-01 Meaningful Citizen Participation in the Fairfax County FY2020 Budget Process**
- Motion to approve by Mount Vernon Civic, second by Gretchen Walz; motion passed unanimous.

Member Association Time:

- Motion to begin **General Council Meeting at 7:00 PM** going forward. Approved by acclamation.

Supervisor Time:

Meeting adjourned 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Molden, MVCCA Secretary

Committee Reports

BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget and Finance Committee met at 7pm, March 7, 2019, in the library of Whitman Middle School. Two associations were represented. Co-chair liaison and acting chair Judy Harbeck also attended.

Due to lack of quorum, no official action could be taken with respect to a proposed resolution on the FY2020 County Advertised Budget. However members present (and others who communicated via email) indicated general approval of funding and revenue proposals, including the tax rate. The acting Chair suggested the resolution could be presented and perhaps adopted by the Board as a Board resolution and those present agreed.

Attendees briefly discussed the future of the Budget Committee which lacks a Chair. It was noted that while the Budget Committee need not meet monthly some additional meetings are needed to look at complex issues such as pension and benefit management, investment strategies, specific funds, revenue sources, assessment protocols and the like. These need to be addressed in a more thoughtful way than just during the annual budget process.

Committee Reports

Members also noted that the County seems to be providing less and less information in its general use budget materials and has apparently abandoned hard copy Citizen's Guides (presumably as a cost cutting measure). Ample material may be available online that is still more difficult for average citizens to navigate even in the information age.

There is no scheduled meeting. Members will be notified by email if one is scheduled .

EDUCATION

The MVCCA Education Committee met at 8pm, March 6, 2019, in the library of Whitman Middle School. Representatives of seven associations were present.

The primary purpose and the subject of most discussion was consideration of the FY2020 County Advertised Budget as it affects funding of education.

Discussion was positive although some members indicated more funding for County early childhood and youth programs would have been welcome. Members were supportive of the proposal to fully fund the School Transfer request (the funding requested by the School Board from the County for school operations) and of the proposed tax rate although several members noted that will pay more than the County average due to increased assessments. An additional increase in construction bond sales authority was small but hopefully indicated awareness of the serious backlogs in school renovation and construction

Several members also noted approvingly that increased cooperation and information sharing between schools and County have resulted in better understanding and a less combative budget process.

After discussion, the Committee approved (7-0) the Resolution which appears elsewhere in this RECORD.

The Committee also discussed speakers/issues for future meetings.

Next meeting: 8 p.m. April 3, 2019, Whitman Middle School library

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The March 6, 2019 meeting was cancelled.

The E&R Chair reached out to Andy Galusha, Park Planner Fairfax Park Authority about speaking to the committee on the Grist Mill Park Master Plan. He stated it was to early to come, but, looks forward to coming soon.

Andy invited everyone to the public meeting on the Grist Mill Park Master Plan on March 4, 2019, 7:00PM, Woodley Hills Elementary School cafeteria.

The E&R Chair also reached out to the committee for ideas for future meetings or discussions. Thanks to all that emailed in!

Next Meeting: Wednesday April 3, 2019, 7:15 pm, Mount Vernon Government Center

PLANNING & ZONING

Members Attending: Karan Cerutti; Mount Vernon Civic Association, Janet McMillian; Engleside Civic Association, Malcolm Northam; Tauxemont Civic Association, Bruce Bade; Potomac Valley/River Bend Civic Association, Mike Frank; Mt.Zephyr, Rich Johnson; Wellington Civic Association, Lynn Pascoe; Montebello Condominiums, Don Martin; Hollin Hall Village Civic Association, Poul Hertel; Riverwood HOA, Ellen Young; Belle View Condominiums

Guests Attending: Walter Clarke; Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner, Tim Sergeant; At-Large Planning Commissioner, Katherine Ward; President Wellington Civic Association, Zachary G. Williams; Bean, Kinney & Korman, Lauren K. Rote; Bean, Kinney & Korman, J. Bradley; 7-Eleven, Brianne Wilson; 7-Eleven, S. Dautermann; Gorove/Slade, Joanne Phoebe; Fairfax County DPZ, Meghan Van Dam; Fairfax County DPZ, Sallie Lyons; Fairfax County History Commissioner; Tammy Mannarino; Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society Secretary

Meeting Presided By: Gretchen Walzl; Planning & Zoning Chair, Karen Pohorylo; Planning & Zoning Vice-Chair

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Presentation: North Gateway CBC Sub-Units A-1, A-2 and A-3, PA 2018-IV-MV5

Joint meeting with the Transportation Committee, see Transportation Committee minutes. Thanks to John Kohout for scribing the minutes for both committees.

The final staff report is to be completed in May 2019, Planning Commission in June 2019 and Board of Supervisors in July 2019

Presentation: 7-Eleven Special Exception, SE 2019-MV-001

Joint meeting with the Transportation Committee, see Transportation Committee Minutes. Thanks again to John Kohout for scribing the minutes for both committees.

Planning Commission Date: 5/22/2019, Board of Supervisors Date: 6/11/2019

Committee Reports

A resolution will be drafted for this Special Exception at the April Planning & Zoning Committee.

Presentation: Demolition of House at 8301 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308

Planning & Zoning only.

Sallie Lyons, Fairfax County History Commissioner and Tammy Mannarino, Mount Vernon Regional Society Secretary gave a presentation on the historical significance of this property. This site is listed on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites, indicating it was built between 1852-1855. Fairfax County has no regulations to force the current property owner to keep the current structure, and plans have been submitted to build a new home. The property is privately owned and by-right. The Wellington Community, which surrounds this home, approves of a new structure being built, so long as the RPA and Conservation Easements are not disturbed.

Sallie & Tammy came to the committee to ask for support to stop the demolition of the home, however, with the property being privately owned and by-right, the committee suggested that both organizations contact the owner to negotiate.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:05 pm

Next Planning & Zoning Meeting: April 1, 2019, 7:00 pm, Mount Vernon Government Center

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Association's Public Safety Committee meeting was held on Thursday, March 7, 2019 in the Mount Vernon Government Center. The meeting began at 7:35 PM with the following associations represented: Collingwood On The Potomac, Mount Vernon Civic, Potomac Valley/River Bend, Riverside Estates, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Sulgrave Manor, Waynewood, and Wellington Estates.

Our speaker was Captain Matt Owens, Station Commander of the Mount Vernon Police Station who provided an early glimpse of his "State of the Highway" presentation for 2018. Captain Owens began the presentation complimenting the staff of his command for their dedication and continued hard work. He is regularly reminded of the high level of quality employees who daily work to make our community safer.

Advising the attending members that the numbers being presented had not been completely finalized for 2018, Captain Owens reported there were about 58,000 calls in 2018 versus around 60,000 in 2017. This includes 27,000 calls for service, 21,000 calls for traffic

10,500 other events. Suspicious activity calls were down about 3.27 percent for Mount Vernon but up for the County.

The number of Department of Justice Group A Offenses (think "normal" crime such as arson, burglary, drugs, fraud, homicide, kidnapping, robbery, etc.) went from 5,896 in 2017 to 5,435 in 2018, a decrease of 7.8 percent. Arrests were down slightly from 4,969 in 2017 to 4,918 for 2018.

Traffic citation numbers were down from 9,488 to 7,798 but this was due to changing to an electronic citation program so statistical data was not captured completely. Driving Under the Influence arrests rose from 144 to 160 and this was attributed to having more officers working the midnight shift. DUI crashes were down between 18 to 20 percent. Fatal crashes for both 2017 and 2018 remained the same at 2.

The Mount Vernon District continues to suffer from the opioid epidemic with 30 overdoses being reported in each of the past two years but the number of fatal events increased from 12 to 13. The 2018 numbers for Fairfax County were 153 non-fatal and 92 fatal overdoses. Information provided did not include the age of those who were involved but would be checked on to see if available.

The Mount Vernon Police Station is served by a number of specialty groups including:

- Selective Enforcement which consists of two officers who deal specifically with traffic issues in the district. They were responsible for;
 - 7 traffic initiatives (Click It or Ticket, Back To School, etc.)
 - 30 traffic complaints
 - 1722 citations
 - 9 DUI arrests
- Neighborhood Patrol (Bike Team) is comprised of nine officers who engage in community outreach, community events, gang suppression operations and other complaints.
 - 549 arrests in 2018
- Criminal Investigations Services staff is responsible for investigating non-violent cases
 - Opened 355 cases
 - Closed 181 (arrested 76, 81 closed by exception, warrants on file for 8, 24 services)
 - Domestic violence detectives:
 - ◊ Domestic violence cases reported 487
 - ◊ Domestic dispute cases reported 1012
 - ◊ Emergency Protective Orders, phone violations and other cases 163
 - CIS highlight of cases solved included;
 - ◊ Assault with serious injuries
 - ◊ July and November burglary series
 - ◊ Mount Vernon Hospital grand larceny case

Committee Reports

- The Crime Prevention Office engages in an extensive number of community outreach activities and events throughout the year to assist residents and businesses become more aware.
 - MPO Urps will be transferring to West Springfield in the next week. MPO Marvin Goodley will be the new CPO and will be assisted by Officer Katie Triffle who has coordinated a number of outreach events in the district.

Other actions station personnel are involved:

- Special Needs Community Sensory Days which includes the Autism FYI class that were conducted several occasions and a video for viewing at shift rollcall sessions.
- Body worn camera study was completed with half of the station wearing the units while the other half did not. Study results are expected later this spring.
- The South County Police Station is expected to open sometime in 2021 which will generate some changes in patrol areas. Seventeen positions for the station are included in the proposed FY2020 budget.
- The transition to the E-Summons program has been completed so all traffic citations will now be printed out which should eliminate some issues and questions for offenders.
- Continued community outreach and partnerships are being made including the Northern Virginia Mediation Services, Trunk or Treat event for Halloween and special efforts during the Christmas holidays.
- Additional officers will receive training to qualify a breathalyzer technicians and critical incident response.
- Also included in the proposed FY2020 budget are relief sergeant positions, Diversion First staff and a one percent market rate adjustment (MRA) and shift differential increase. A higher MRA is desired to get more people interested in a law enforcement career. Other suggested staff changes would include a Watch Commander position for each station and having the Master Police Officer rank becomes automatic upon reaching set number years of service.

A question was asked regarding the relationship between Fairfax County Police and the United States Park Police to which Captain Owens responded that the relationship is great but that US Park Police have jurisdiction on the George Washington Parkway and that is not shared with or by Fairfax County Police. So, complaints concerning speeders or other issues on the Parkway should be directed to US Park Police. (If you are involved or witness activities which need to be reported, call 9-1-1 and you will be connected to US Park Police.)

The committee thanked Captain Owens for his time and the information shared. At a subsequent meeting, we will be introduced to MPO Goodley the new Crime Prevention Officer.

Committee members were provided information on upcoming events.

Virginia Statewide Tornado Drill is Tuesday, March 19 at 9:45 am
Worship Watch Program on Saturday, March 30 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of LDS.

There was no further business so the meeting concluded at approximately 9:15 PM.

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 7:30 pm in the Mount Vernon Government Center.

TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of March 4, 2019 in the Community Rooms, Mount Vernon Government Center at 2511 Parkers Lane. The meeting began as a joint meeting with the Planning and Zoning Committee. Participating in the meeting were: MVCCA Council Co-Chair Earl Flanagan; Meghan Van Dam and Joanne Fiebe of the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning; Zachary Williams, Lauren Rote and five team members supporting Bean, Kenney and Korman, P.C. in their representation of 7-Eleven; Rodrigo Velasquez from Delegate Tran's office; and Tom Burke, Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Transportation representatives of the following citizens' associations were in attendance: Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View, Gum Springs, Hollin Hall, Huntington, Mason Hill, Montebello, Mount Vernon, Mount Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Williamsburg Manor North, and Woodlawn Manor.

Chairman Walzl called the joint meeting to order and introduced Meghan Van Dam and Joanne Fiebe of the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning.

They presented an introductory briefing of the current concept for the Plan Amendment that will shape the North Gateway Community Business Center. The North Gateway CBC is bounded by the Richmond Highway south of Cameron Run, Huntington Avenue, the Riverside Apartment complex and Cameron Run. Since the 28.17 acre Riverside complex has already received approval for additional mid-and high-rise residential development which would add 800 residential units to the existing 1,200 with a small mixed use component, the briefing focused primarily on the approximately 18 acres of Sub-units A-1 and A-2 of the CBC. These sub units encompass the property now occupied by the automobile dealerships, restaurant, mid-rise office building, bank and closed Sunoco station between the Richmond Highway and Riverside Apartments. Incorporating urban design guidance envisioned by the Embark planning effort, the Plan Amendment would provide 396 dwelling units and 215,000 square feet of non-residential development. A massive complex of new buildings ranging from six to fifteen stories high would be arranged within a grid of new local streets intended to provide amenities and landscaping for residents' quality of life.

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Higher development intensity might be studied once transportation analysis is complete. The central spine of the development would be along Fort Hunt Road extended north of Richmond Highway. A park-like area would be maintained along Cameron Run to both continue the Cameron Run Trail now established further west along the Run's bank and as a barrier for flood control. The Transportation Committee will be briefed on the Huntington Area Transportation Analysis as soon as it is ready. Questions from committee members expressed concern over livability of the CBC. One member reiterated that the Committee was and remains opposed to any "fly-overs" as elements of street reconfigurations in that area. Others questioned pedestrian access across Richmond Highway particularly where the Cameron Run Trail encounters Richmond Highway directly across the Highway from the extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway Trail. When the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project was taking shape, the Richmond Highway intersection included a pedestrian trail passage beneath the Highway along the bank of Cameron Run near that point. It was never built but may be possible as a part of this development concept. This planning effort is intended to produce a final staff report in May, be the subject of a Planning Commission public hearing in June and go to a Board of Supervisors public hearing in July. This Plan Amendment has the potential to make a major change to the character of the Mount Vernon District, and the Transportation Committee will be watching it closely.

Zachary Williams and Lauren Rote of Bean, Kinney and Korman, P.C. then presented a proposal to demolish the existing 7-Eleven at 8629 Richmond Highway built in 1973 and replace it with a new 7-Eleven with 8 gas pumps. The new construction would use both the old 7-Eleven site and the adjacent lot formerly occupied by Denny's. The new construction would be farther from Richmond Highway to accommodate planned widening. Access would be from Lukens lane and the northbound lane of Richmond Highway. A part of the corporate rationale for this project is the fact that Richmond Highway widening will permanently close a number of gas stations along the Highway and reduce the capacity of others. The new construction would provide 4,000 square feet for 7-Eleven and 2,400 additional square feet for another retail tenant. Building design is a new 7-Eleven corporate design with a masonry appearing surface. The new facility would operate 24 hours per day, seven days a week including holidays. The current operation generates 1040 trips per day, and the new operation is expected to add 895 new visits per day. While the site is zoned C-8, appropriate for the existing 7-Eleven, the addition of gas pumps requires approval as an exception. The project is scheduled to go before the Planning Commission on May 22 and the Board of Supervisors on June 25. Committee members did not question the location or intended nature of the business. But, members wanted to make sure that the 7-Eleven project leaders talk with residents of Walutes Circle which is immediately behind the 7-Eleven, since that particular community is not a part of a formal citizens' association. They also raised questions about why the new 7-Eleven would not have solar panels or charging stations and what ground water risks there would be from the new fuel storage tanks. Evidently both state and

federal regulations are so strict that current tanks are much more sturdy and reliable than earlier versions.

After the combined P&Z and Transportation meeting the two Committees met separately. Chairman Sitnik called the Transportation Committee to order and began with a number of announcements.

Committee members were asked to contact the Chairman if they can volunteer to participate in VDOT's Northern Virginia Paving Program Public Information Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on March 28 at the South County Government Center. VDOT plans to restripe hundreds of roads across Fairfax County between April and November 2019, and this is our chance to submit comments.

WMATA is being asked to do a presentation to the Committee in the May-June time frame.

Our Committee's support for pedestrian underpasses as a part of the bridges over Dogue Creek and Little Hunting Creek concern over the safety of the two pedestrian passages have been passed to VDOT and VDOT is reviewing them.

State Senator Surovell has worked legislation in Richmond that will allow Fairfax County to access utilities taxes for the purpose of undergrounding utilities along the part of Richmond Highway to be widened. The Chairman will reiterate to the MVCCA Council our support for undergrounding and ensure the Council is aware of the new funding option.

In a continuing discussion about the new 7-Eleven at 8629 Richmond Highway, Transportation Committee members revisited the question about why 7-Eleven doesn't include charging stations for electric vehicles and why they don't include solar panels on the large flat roof and flat canopy over the gas pumps. Both of these installations could be profit centers for 7-Eleven and would contribute to the positive image of the new 7-Eleven. An informal straw vote was taken and the majority supported the new 7-Eleven if it included solar panels and charging stations.

We again reviewed our draft resolution on improvements to the Fort Hunt Road – Richmond Highway intersection. Several editorial changes were made and accepted. Further changes can be accepted before the resolution goes final. We voted unanimously to proceed with separate resolutions on pedestrian safety in that area and pursuit of improvements to traffic flow from Richmond Highway to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and westbound on the Beltway. Earl Flanagan reminded us that the original intersection design for the Richmond Highway – Beltway intersection included a ramp from Richmond Highway to the through lanes of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. The original design required a stop light, but revisiting that now would not require a stop light since only northbound traffic on Richmond Highway would need the option of accessing the Bridge's through lanes.

We discussed the recent pedestrian fatality in the 5900 block of Richmond Highway, in front of Ourisman Jeep Dodge. The pedes-

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trian was struck in the southbound lanes at about 9:30 p.m. on the 7th of February when she was trying to walk across the eleven traffic lanes of Richmond Highway where there are two turn lanes into Fort Hunt Road. There is no cross walk at that point and the driver stayed at the scene.

Steve Ditmeyer described another serious accident on the George Washington Memorial Parkway at the Belle Haven Road intersection when a vehicle entering the Parkway was "T-boned" by another vehicle passing on the Parkway. He commented that the U.S. Park Police do not seem to be reacting to all-too-frequent accidents of this type.

VDOT will present its Design Public Hearing on Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA 22309. Committee members are encouraged to attend. If bad weather delays this meeting, the planned weather date is Thursday, April 11.

The next Transportation Committee meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 1 in the Community Rooms at the Mount Vernon Government Center on Parkers Lane. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation will present an update on the Huntington Area Transportation Study (HATS) at that April meeting. The April meeting may be held jointly with Planning and Zoning so both committees can receive the HATS briefing together.

Visit the MVCCA Transportation Committee webpage for postings relating to this meeting.

FAIRFAX FEDERATION

- The latest Federation Membership Meeting was held on 21 February, 2019: The meeting was called to order @7:30PM in Room 1600 of the FC Public School building on Gatehouse Road. Agenda included two extensive presentations on the 2020 Fairfax County advertised budget. Speakers from the county and the school board led the presentations and discussion. Following the presentations there was a short yet very informative update and discussion on the very positive results of this year's Federation legislative package was experiencing at the General Assembly in Richmond. It was also decided that a Budget resolution would be crafted and brought back to the membership for consideration. The planning for this year's Citizen of the Year banquet is beginning to firm up. Stay tuned for final date and location.
- February Board meeting was held Thursday, 28 February 2019, 7:30PM: Braddock Hall 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015. Agenda included establishment of a nomination committee, firming up the COY banquet details and list of those to be honored. Much of the meeting was discussion on the development of this year's Budget Resolution and the success of the

legislative package. Draft minutes of previous Board meetings and general business.

Upcoming Federation Meetings & events:

- March 2019 Board meeting: Thursday, 21 March 2019 - 2020 Fairfax County and Public Schools Budgets. Location to TBD & TBA.
- Federation Membership Meeting: Thursday, 28 March 2019, 7:30 PM: 2020 Fairfax County and Public Schools Budgets. Location and agenda should be on the Federation webpage the week before the meeting.
- 2018 COY Annual Awards Banquet: Sunday, 7 April 2019, Cocktails 5:30 PM, Program 6:30 PM, Tysons Corner Doubletree Hotel, 1960 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons Corner, VA.

2018 Year's COY Honorees

2018 Fairfax County Citizen of the Year: **Catherine Ledec**

Citation of Merit Honorees: Alberto Sangiorgio, Tania Hossain

Special Gratitude Award Recipient: **John F. Ribble, III**

- April's Membership Meeting: 18 April, 2019: Agenda and location to TBD & TBA.

More information may be found (*Much of the postings are still somewhat out of date as of this report March 13, 2019*): All things related to the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (FEDERATION/FED) can be found on the Federations Website (www.fairfaxfederation.org).

SFDC

The 2019 Economic Outlook Summit will be held on April 11, 7:30 am – 11:00 am, at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22307. This year's moderator is Hon. Tom Davis. Dr. Terry Clower, Director of the Center for Regional Analysis, George Mason University and Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Executive will both speak. This event is always informative. Through April 1 the ticket price is \$40, which includes breakfast. Don't miss out – sign up at www.mtvernon-leechamber.org!

Committee Resolutions

EDUCATION

**PROPOSED
MVCCA EDUCATION COMMITTEE RESOLUTION EDU-2019-02
IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING OF SCHOOL TRANSFER
REQUEST IN FY2020**

1. **WHEREAS** the Fairfax County School Board FY2019 Advertised Budget ("School Budget"), adopted February 7, 2019, requires an increase in direct support of \$84.4M or ("School Transfer") from Fairfax County for full funding; and

2. **WHEREAS** the School Transfer and the County budget continues to be negatively impacted by the failure of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia to provide fair and equitable funding of school mandates so Fairfax County must devote a high percentage of its revenue to maintaining a quality school system despite these failures; and

3. **WHEREAS** the Fairfax County FY2019 Advertised Budget, published February 19, 2019, ("County Advertised Budget") proposes to fully fund the School Transfer and also provided certain enhancements such as increasing school bond sales limits by \$4.6M, and some additional funds to support County services such as early childhood readiness, school health and expansion of opportunity neighborhoods and

4. **WHEREAS** full funding of the School Transfer creates an opportunity to begin to re-establish the preeminence of Fairfax County Public Schools ("FCPS") as a valuable County asset, to bring teacher salaries to a competitive level and eventually to address class size increases and other cuts necessitated by a decade of underfunding of school needs; and

5. **WHEREAS** the suggested \$4.6M increase in sales of taxpayer-approved bonds will allow some significant school construction needs to be addressed earlier, resulting in cost savings and speedier reduction of the significant backlog in renovation and construction requirements; and

6. **WHEREAS** the County Advertised Budget recommends no change to the FY2019 property tax rate of \$1.15/\$100 assessed valuation since increases in assessed value are considered adequate to generate revenue to fund the School Transfer and other County needs as set forth in the County Budget; and

7. **WHEREAS** the recommended FY2020 tax rate does not change the relative tax burden position of Fairfax (the average homeowner will pay an estimated additional \$148 per year or about \$12.30 per month) compared to surrounding jurisdictions and to other large semi-urban counties, and is necessary to protect quality of schools now and promote a positive future even as efforts should continue to obtain fair funding from Virginia and the U.S.; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations ("MVCCA") urges the Board of Supervisors to adopt \$1.15/\$100 assessed valuation as the actual property tax rate for FY2020 and to fully fund the School Transfer increase and other school assistance suggested in the County Advertised Budget.

END: PROPOSED RESOLUTION EDU-2019-02

BOARD

**PROPOSED
MVCCA BOARD RESOLUTION BOARD-2019-01
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FY2020 COUNTY BUDGET**

1. **WHEREAS** the Fairfax County Executive's FY2020 Budget Plan ("FY2020 Advertised Budget") was released on February 19, 2019, and contains revenue and spending recommendations including the following:

(1) Full funding of the School Transfer request in the Fairfax County School Board's FY2020 Advertised Budget ("School Transfer");

(2) A 1% MSA raise for County employees and some additional enhancements to compensation such as Performance, Merit and Longevity increases;

(3) A FY2020 property tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100 assessed valuation, the same rate as FY2019 (the average taxpayer will pay an additional \$148 per year or \$12.30 per month due to assessment increases); and

2. **WHEREAS** full funding of the School Transfer is necessary to continue restoring the pre-eminence of Fairfax County Public Schools through attracting and retaining teachers through a competitive salary structure and eventually restoring class size to pre-2008 levels; and

3. **WHEREAS** proper functioning of the County requires high quality employees with appropriate salaries and benefits compared to competitors in the region but in the absence of statistical evidence showing competitive disadvantage (such as was shown with teachers) MVCCA is not able to determine if employee compensation in the FY2020 Advertised Budget meets this standard; and

MVCCA Resolutions

4. **WHEREAS** Mount Vernon District is very diverse and has experiences with the social ills associated with concentrations of poor and immigrant populations such as lack of well-paying jobs, uneven access to services, poor student performance, substance abuse, domestic violence, property crimes, and gang violence all of which requires substantial investment by the County if the intent of ONE FAIRFAX is to realized; and

5. **WHEREAS** the FY2020 Advertised Budget includes some additional funding for services of particular interest to Mount Vernon District residents, and which will further progress on the County's ONE FAIRFAX initiative including:

(1) Staffing for the new South County Police Station and an increase in funds for Diversion First, Opioid Task Force and Gang Prevention Initiative;

(2) Increased funding for programs which particularly target youth and/or provide assistance to students and families including Diversion First, Special Education graduates Programs, Early Childhood and School Readiness, School Health Support, Healthy Minds Fairfax, and Opportunity Neighborhoods;

6. **WHEREAS** such additional funding in FY2020, while helpful, is only an incremental step in addressing community problems and furthering "ONE FAIRFAX" so that increased funding will still be needed in FY2020 and successive year to address all issues, particularly reducing the waiting list for Head Start and other early childhood programs; and

7. **WHEREAS** no funds are provided for undergrounding of utilities and communications although MVCCA has noted that undergrounding of utilities and communications is highly desirable to furthering revitalization of Richmond Highway corridor, will provide more reliable service than current above ground technology, and that if done concurrently with VDOT projects provide a cost efficient opportunity which will of be lost if the County does not act (see Attachments); and

8. **WHEREAS** other Virginia counties including Prince William and Stafford have already begun undergrounding utilities using various funding methods, and where VDOT and Commonwealth funds may be available, but additional substantial investment by the County will be needed to achieve undergrounding for the Richmond Highway corridor and other areas particularly in the older sections of the County; and

9. **WHEREAS** the County's share of funding for undergrounding on Richmond Highway could be accomplished by devoting a portion of the usual carryforward (\$5-6M) for the next few years and/or by creating a County-wide fund for undergrounding through a dedicated additional one-half or one-quarter penny on the property tax rate, or utility rate, or other creative funding methods with Richmond Highway being the initial project to be followed by other projects as opportunities arise;

10. **WHEREAS** MVCCA has for years urged the Board of Supervisors ("BOS") to include some flexibility in setting the maximum tax rate, the BOS on March 5, 2019, set a maximum property tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100 assessed valuation which likely precludes establishing a dedicated revenue stream for County-wide undergrounding in FY2020 but should be considered for FY2121 and thereafter; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations respectfully requests the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to adopt the County Executive's FY2020 Advertised Budget including full funding of the School Transfer, to adopt the suggested \$1.15 tax rate for application in FY2020, and to consider the following requests:

(1) If possible, additional funds be directed to programs promoting the goals of ONE FAIRFAX and those that assist the disadvantaged, particularly Head Start which continues to have long waiting lists with children "ageing out" before they are able to participate; and

(2) The County should take advantage of the opportunity to underground utilities along Richmond Highway in concert with VDOT widening—and eventually in other areas of the County—by dedicating funds from any FY2020 carryforward and in the future through carryover use and/or dedicated funding through the property tax rate, and/or utility tax, and/or other creative funding methods.

END: PROPOSED RESOLUTION BOARD-2019-01

Treasurer's Report

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc.

Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Year to Date Compared to Annual Budget
Periods Ending February 28, 2019

(Amounts are rounded to nearest dollar)

	February	Total July 1 to February 28	2018-2019 Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
<u>Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):</u>				
Dues - Current Members	\$ -	\$ 2,601	\$ 3,300	
Dues - Collected in 2017-18 Fiscal Year ³	-	102	-	
Money Market Interest	1	7	10	
Total Cash Receipts	1	2,710	3,310	\$ (600)
<u>Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):</u>				
Administrative	-	107	300	193
Insurance Premium	-	844	880	36
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	-	-	500	500
"Record" Production	160	690	1,390	700
Web Site	167	980	2,500	1,520
Total Cash Disbursements	327	2,621	5,570	2,949
Net Budget - Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements:	(326)	88	(2,260)	\$ (3,549)
<u>50 Year Anniversary Celebration</u>				
Receipts	2,000	2,500		
Expenses	-	(500)		
Net Results	2,000	2,000		

Other Sources/Changes in Cash:

Cash at Beginning of Period	11,478	11,166	11,166	Note 2
Dues - Collected in 2017-18 for 2018-19 Fiscal Year	-	(102)	-	Note 3
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 13,152	\$ 13,152	\$ 8,906	

End of Period Cash Balances by Account (adjusted for outstanding items):

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 3,100	
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	10,052	
Total Cash	\$ 13,152	

Respectfully
Submitted,
Stephen Markman,
Treasurer
March 12, 2019

Notes:

- 1 This financial statement uses the cash basis of accounting except as noted on the face of the statement.
- 2 The "Annual Budget" and "Total" columns reflect actual Beginning of Period cash as of July 1, 2018.
- 3 Note dues collected in 2017-18 fiscal year for 2018-19 fiscal year are included in "Cash Receipts" above; therefore, must be deducted from "Cash at Beginning of Period".
- 4 Dues that are currently collected for the next fiscal-year are separated from budgeted transactions but are included in the cash balances reported.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
South County Government Center, Room 217
8350 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria 22309

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Call to Order

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Secretary's Minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report
- Committee Reports
- Co-Chair's Report on Board Actions

Published Items and Resolutions

New Business

- Member Association Time
- Mount Vernon Supervisor Time
- Other Elected Officials and Public Time

Adjournment

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Council—Mar. 27, 7:00 p.m., SCC Rm 217
MVCCA Board—Apr. 10, 7:00 p.m., MVGC Comm. Rm 3

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	TBD			<i>open</i>
EDU	4/3	8:00	WWMS/lib	Harbeck
E&R	4/3	7:15	MVGC Comm Rm	Pohorylo
PL/Z	4/1	7:00	MVGC Comm Rm	Walzl
PS	4/4	7:30	MVGC Comm Rm	Sherick
TRAN	4/1	7:00	MVGC Comm Rm	Sitnik

*The Record is published monthly except August by the
Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations,
P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203.*